

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 197902
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY UNA:JFTEFFT

APPROVED BY UNA:AFHOLLOWAY

S/S-O:TMARTIN

-----105499 191921Z /42

O 191907Z AUG 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 197902

NODIS

FOR AMB YOUNG

FOLLOWING REPEAT SEOUL 6995 ACTION STATE AUG 19.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6995

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS), KS, KN, US, CH

SUBJ: CONSULTATION WITH ROKG FOREIGN MINISTER ON SECRETARY'S
DISCUSSION OF KOREA ISSUES WITH THE CHINESE

1. DESPITE MY REPEATED URGINGS TO FOREIGN MINISTER THAT
WE MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY ON THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR DIS-
CUSSIONS, THE FOLLOWING WIRE PRESS (HAPTONG) APPEARED
THIS AFTERNOON:

QUOTE: SEOUL, AUG 19 (QHEPTONG) - SOUTH KOREA AND THE
UNITED STATES TODAY HELD WIDE-RANGING CONSULTATIONS ON
THE KOREAN QUESTION WHICH IS EXPECTED TO COME UP FOR DIS-
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CUSSION WHEN U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE VISITS
COMMUNIST CHINA ON AUG. 22.

"FOREIGN MINISTER PAK TONG-CHIN MET WITH THOMAS STERN,
MINISTER-COUNSELOR AT THE U.S. EMBASSY HERE, THIS MORNING
FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE PLANNED
WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES FROM KOREA AND THE ISSUE

OF GUARANTEEING A LASTING PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA.
HONERABLE SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE WILL DISCUSS WITH PEKING
LEADERS DURING HIS TRIP TO CHINA. (SENTENCE AS RECEIVED).

"AT THE MEETING, IT WAS LEARNED, FOREIGN MINISTER PAK
REAFFIRMED THAT SEOUL GOVERNMENT'S STAND THAT IT WOULD
BE HARD TO EASE THE TENSIONS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA UN-
LESS NORTH KOREA RESPONDED WITH POSITIVENESS TO THE
REPEATED SOUTH KOREAN CALL FOR UNCONDITIONAL RESUMPTION
OF THE LONG-STALLED SOUTH-NORTH PEACE DIALOGUE.

"THE TWO ALSO AGREED THAT THE PLANNED U.S. MILITARY
PHASEOUT WOULD IN NO RPT NO WAY MEAN ANY CHANGE IN THE
U.S. COMMITMENT TO THE SECURITY OF SOUTH KOREA, IT WAS
LEARNED.

"THE PAK-STERN CONSULTATIONS WILL SERVE AS BASIC
MATERIALS FOR VANCE TO USE DURING HIS FORTHCOMING CHINA
TRIP.

"THE TWO FURTHER AGREED TO CONTINUE DIPLOMATIC CONSULTA-
TIONS ON THE KOREAN QUESTION AFTER VANCE'S VISIT TO PEKING,
IT WAS SAID.

"IT COULD NOT BE CONFIRMED WHETHER THEY DISCUSSED AT THE
MEETING THE U.S. REQUEST THAT THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT
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EXTEND COOPERATION IN AN AMERICAN INVESTIGATION INTO THE
SO-CALLED SOUTH KOREAN INFLUENCE-BUYING SCANDAL IN THE
U.S. CONGRESS.

"IT WAS THEIR SECOND MEETING IN TWO DAYS. WHEN THEY MET
THURSDAY, MINISTER PAK SAID THAT THERE WAS LITTLE FOR
THE SEOUL GOVERNMENT TO HELP THE UNITED STATES IN ITS
INVESTIGATION INTO THE ALLEGED SCANDAL INVOLVING A
KOREAN BUSINESSMAN WHO HOLDS A PERMANENT RESIDENTSHIP
IN THE UNITED STATES. IT IS SOMETHING THE U.S. GOVERN-
MENT SHOULD SETTLE WITH PAK TONG-SUN, CENTRAL FIGURE IN
THE ALLEGED INFLUENCE-BUYING SCHEME.

"THE CONTROVERSIAL KOREAN BUSINESSMAN, BEING SOUGHT BY
THE UNITED STATES FOR INVESTIGATION, ARRIVED HERE FROM
LONDON WHERE HE HAD STAYED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. END
QUOTE.

COMMENT: WE CAN EXPECT THIS STORY TO APPEAR IN TOMORROW'S
PAPERS. THE SUBJECT OF TONG-SUN PARK NEVER AROSE. WE
ARE VERY SORRY THAT THE STORY APPEARED BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, WE
HAVE VERY LITTLE CONTROL OVER THE SITUATION. WE HAVE ALREADY

VIGOROUSLY PROTESTED TO FOREIGN OFFICE. STERN UNQUOTE
VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PEACE, CAT-A, NEWS LEAKS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, TROOP REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE197902
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JFTEFFT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N770005-0134
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770842/aaaabjpj.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7fce8457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1544928
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATION WITH ROKG FOREIGN MINISTER ON SECRETARY'S DISCUSSION OF KOREA ISSUES WITH THE CHINESE
TAGS: OVIP, PINR, MARR, KS, KN, US, CH, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (STERN, THOMAS), (PAK TONG-CHIN), (VANCE, CYRUS)
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7fce8457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009